

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-23 (Cancelled)

Claim 24 (Currently Amended) A content distribution system comprising:

a license management server[[,]];

a relay server; and

a terminal device,

wherein the license management server includes at least one processor programmed to operate as with the following units:

_____ a first license generation unit generating operable to generate, in a first format, a first license for controlling content use in the terminal device;

_____ a modification detection information generation unit generating operable to generate a digital signature for detecting a modification of the first license and sending further operable to send the generated digital signature to the relay server, depending on a condition status of a transmission path to the terminal device;

_____ a specification information receiving unit receiving operable to receive an input of format specification information that is an instruction, to the terminal device, for converting a format of a second license to the first format; and

_____ a specification information sending unit sending operable to send the received format specification information to the relay server,

wherein the relay server includes at least one processor programmed to operate as with the following units:

_____ a second license generation unit (i) generating ~~operable to generate~~, in a second format, [[a]] the second license by adding, to the first license, the digital signature for detecting [[a]] the modification of the first license, the second format being different from the first format, and ~~further operable to add~~ (ii) adding, to the generated second license, the format specification information received by the license management server, and

wherein the terminal device includes at least one processor programmed to operate as with the following units:

_____ a format conversion unit obtaining ~~operable to obtain~~ the second license from the relay server and ~~further operable to convert~~ converting the format of the second license into the first format, according to the format specification information added to the second license;

_____ a judgment unit judging ~~a~~ operable to judge presence or absence of the modification of the first license using the digital signature for detecting the modification of the first license having ~~a~~, whose format is converted from the second format into the first format by the format conversion unit; and

_____ a use unit using ~~operable to use~~ the content according to the first license when in the case ~~where~~ the judgment unit judges that no modification is made.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended) The content distribution system according to claim 24, ~~wherein, the modification detection information generation unit is further operable to determine whether a frequency band of the transmission path is narrower than a frequency band predetermined by a characteristic of the transmission path or a communication speed of the transmission path is slower than a communication speed predetermined by a characteristic of the transmission path, and~~

when (i) in the case where the modification detection information generation unit determines that the a frequency band of the transmission path is narrower than the a frequency band predetermined by the a characteristic of the transmission path, or (ii) the a communication speed of the transmission path is slower than the a communication speed predetermined by the characteristic of the transmission path, the modification detection information generation unit sends operable to send the generated digital signature to the relay server and instructs further operable to instruct the relay server to generate the second license.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended) The content distribution system according to claim 25, wherein the second license generation unit generates is further operable to generate the second license so that a data size of the second license generated in the second format is smaller than a data size of the first license generated in the first format.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended) The content distribution system according to claim 24, wherein the license management server includes a first sending unit operable to send the first license to the terminal device,

wherein the at least one processor of the relay server is programmed to operates as includes a second sending unit sending operable to send the second license to the terminal device via the transmission path different from the transmission path in the case of using the license management server, and

wherein the at least one processor of the terminal device is programmed is operable to obtain the second license from the second sending unit.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended) The content distribution system according to claim 24, further comprising a plurality of servers, each of the plurality of servers being one of which is the relay server,

wherein the at least one processor of each of the plurality of relay servers is programmed to operate as includes an “n”th license generation unit generating operable to generate an “n”th (“n” is a natural number that is 2 or greater) license, in an “n”th format, by adding, to the first license, the digital signature for detecting the modification of the first license, the “n”th format being different from the first format, and

wherein the format conversion unit of the terminal device obtains is operable to obtain the “n”th license from one relay server of the plurality of relay servers and further operable to convert converts the format of the “n”th license into the first format.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended) A license management server of in a content distribution system including comprising the license management server[;], a relay server[;], and a terminal device, the license management server including at least one processor programmed to operate as:

a first license generation unit generating, in the first format, a first license for controlling content us in the terminal device;

a modification detection information generation unit generating a digital signature of the first license, sending the generated digital signature to the relay server, depending on a status of a transmission path to the terminal device, and instructing the relay server to generate a second license;

a specification information receiving unit receiving an input of format specification information that is an instruction, to the terminal device, for converting a format of the second license into the first format; and

a specification information sending unit sending the received format specification information to the relay server,

wherein the at least one processor of the license management server is programmed to distribute is operable to distribute a the first license for controlling the content use in [[a]] the terminal device,

wherein at least one processor of the relay server is programmed is operable to generate, in a second format, [[a]] the second license by adding, to the first license, a digital signature for detecting a modification of the first license, the second format being different from [[a]] the first format, further operable to add, to the generated second license, format specification information, and further operable to distribute the second license, and

wherein at least one processor of the terminal device is programmed is operable to generate the first license by format transformation by obtaining the second license and converting the second license from the second format into the first format using the format specification information, further operable to detect a presence or absence of the modification of the generated first license using the digital signature for detecting the modification of the first license, and, when in the case where no modification is detected, further operable to use the content according to the first license,

the license management server includes at least one processor programmed with the following units:

— a first license generation unit operable to generate, in the first format, the first license; and

— a modification detection information generation unit operable to generate the digital signature of the first license, further operable to send the generated digital signature to the relay server, depending on a condition of a transmission path to the terminal device, and further operable to instruct the relay server to generate the second license;

— a specification information receiving unit operable to receive an input of the format specification information that is an instruction, to the terminal device, for converting the format of the second license into the first format;

— a specification information sending unit operable to send the received format specification information to the relay server.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended) The license management server according to claim 29, wherein, the modification detection information generation unit is further operable to determine whether a frequency band of the transmission path is narrower than a frequency band predetermined by a characteristic of the transmission path or a communication speed of the transmission path is slower than a communication speed predetermined by a characteristic of the transmission path, and

when (i) in the case where the modification detection information generation unit determines that the a frequency band of the transmission path is narrower than the a frequency band predetermined by the a characteristic of the transmission path, or (ii) the a communication speed of the transmission path is slower than the a communication speed predetermined by the characteristic of the transmission path, the modification detection information generation unit

~~sends the modification detection information generation unit is operable to send the generated digital signature to the relay server and instructs further operable to instruct the relay server to generate the second license~~

Claim 31 (Currently Amended) The license management server according to claim 30, wherein the relay server is further operable to generate the second license is generated so that a data size of the second license generated in the second format is smaller than a data size of the first license generated in the first format.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended) A relay server ~~of~~in a content distribution system including comprising: a license management server[[;]], the relay server[[;]], and a terminal device, wherein the license management server includes at least one processor programmed is operable to distribute a first license for controlling content use in [[a]]the terminal device, wherein the relay server generates is operable to generate, in a second format, a second license generated by adding, to the first license, a digital signature for detecting a modification of the first license, the second format being different from a first format, and distributes further operable to distribute the second license, and wherein the terminal device generates is operable to generate the first license by format transformation by obtaining the second license and converting the second license from the second format into the first format using format specification information, further operable to detect detects a presence or absence of the modification of the generated first license using the digital signature for detecting the modification of the first license, and, when in the case where

no modification is detected, ~~uses~~ ~~further operable to use~~ the content according to the first license, and

wherein the relay server includes at least one processor programmed ~~to operate as with~~ the following units:

_____ a second license generation unit ~~generating~~ ~~operable to generate~~, in the second format different from the first format, the second license by adding, to the first license generated in the first format, the digital signature of the first license received from the license management server, ~~further operable to receive~~ ~~receiving~~ an input of ~~the~~ format specification information from the license management server, the format specification information ~~being~~ ~~that is~~ an instruction, to the terminal device, for converting the format of the second license to the first format, and ~~further operable to add~~ ~~adding~~ the received format specification information to the generated second license; and

_____ a second license sending unit ~~sending~~ ~~operable to send~~ the generated second license to the terminal device.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended) The relay server according to claim 32, wherein the second ~~license~~ sending unit ~~sends~~ ~~is operable to send~~ the second license to the terminal device via a transmission path different from the license management server.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended) A terminal device ~~is of~~ a content distribution system ~~including~~ ~~comprising~~: a license management server[[:]], a relay server[[:]], and the terminal device,

wherein the license management server includes at least one processor programmed is operable to distribute a first license for controlling content use in the terminal device,

wherein the relay server generates is operable to generate a second license generated, in a second format, by adding, to the first license, a digital signature for detecting a modification of the first license, the second format being different from a first format, and distributes the second license, and

wherein the terminal device uses is operable to use the content according to the first license by obtaining the second license and further operable to generate generates the first license using format conversion, and

wherein the terminal device includes at least one processor programmed to operate as with the following units:

_____ a format conversion unit obtaining operable to obtain the second license generated in the second format from the relay server, and further operable to convert converting a format of the obtained second license into the first format different from the second format so as to generate the first license according to format specification information that is an instruction to the terminal device for converting the format of the second license to the first format, and that is added to the second license;

_____ a judging unit judging operable to judge a presence or absence of the modification of the generated first license using the digital signature for detecting the modification of the first license added to the second license; and

_____ a use unit using operable to use the content according to the first license, when in the case where the judgment unit judges that no modification is made.

Claim 35 (Currently Amended) A license distribution method of using for use in a content distribution system including a license management server, a relay server and a terminal device, the license distribution method comprising using at least one processor of the content distribution system to perform the method of:

generating, in a first format, a first license for controlling content use in the terminal device, the generation being executed by the license management server;

generating a digital signature for detecting a modification of the first license and sending the generated digital signature to the relay server, depending on a condition of a transmission path to the terminal device, the generating and sending being executed by the license management server;

receiving an input of format specification information that is an instruction, to the terminal device, for converting a format of a second license to the first format, the receiving of the input of the format specification information being executed by the license management server;

sending the received format specification information to the relay server, the sending of the received format specification information being executed by the license management server;

generating [[a]] the second license in a second format different from the first format by adding, to the first license, [[a]] the digital signature for detecting [[a]] the modification of the first license, and adding the format specification information received by the license management server to the generated second license, the generation of the second license and the adding of the format specification information being executed by the relay server;

converting the format of the second license into the first format by obtaining the second license from the relay server, according to the format specification information added to the second license, the converting of the format conversion being executed by the terminal device; judging a presence or absence of the modification of the first license using the digital signature for detecting the modification of the first license having a-whose format is converted from the second format into the first format, the judging of the presence or absence of the modification judgment being executed by the terminal device; and

using the content according to the first license, when the judging judges in the case where it is judged that there is an absence of the no modification is made, the using of the content according to the first license-use being executed by the terminal device.